

I claim:

1. A universal safety harness for securing a child or disabled person to a highchair, booster seat, adult chair, shopping cart, stroller, wheelchair, or vehicle seat belt or other seat-related structure, comprising:

(a) one or more waist pieces having a front and back and having a means for securing the ends of the waist piece or pieces to each other and around the waist of a child or disabled person, and including waist piece attachment means for attaching the waist piece or pieces to other parts of the harness,

(b) one or more shoulder straps attached to said waist piece or pieces, and adapted to extend from the front of the waist piece or pieces over the shoulder of the child or disabled person, and to the back of the waist piece or pieces, and

(c) a separate adjustable strap having strap attachment means for attaching to one or more waist piece attachment means and adapted to extend around or attach to an engageable portion of a highchair, booster seat, adult chair, shopping cart, stroller, wheelchair, or vehicle seat belt or other seat-related structure,

whereby the child or disabled person is secured to the highchair, booster seat, adult chair, shopping cart, stroller, wheelchair, or vehicle seat belt or other seat-related structure.

2. The harness of claim 1, wherein the waist piece or pieces comprise a right back waist piece portion and a left back waist piece portion, which pieces are adapted to extend around the waist of the child or disabled person and then to be securable to each other by the waist pieces securing means.

3. The harness of claim 2, wherein the waist pieces securing means comprises one or more mating pairs of Velcro hooks and loops, one or more strap and buckle pairs, one or more hook and eyelet pairs, one or more snap connector pairs, or one or more button and buttonhole pairs.

4. The harness of claim 1, wherein the waist piece attachment means for attaching the adjustable strap to the waist piece or pieces comprises one or more rings or belt loops attached to the waist piece or pieces, whereby the adjustable strap may pass through the rings or belt loops, or whereby the adjustable strap may attach to said loops or rings by a strap attachment means.

5. The harness of claim 4, wherein the strap attachment means comprises a snap hook or swivel snap hook on one or more ends of the adjustable strap, adapted to engage the rings or belt loops or other waist piece attachment means attached to the waist piece or pieces.

6. The harness of claim 5, wherein the adjustable strap has a means for adjusting the length of the adjustable strap, and one or more rings on the end or ends of the adjustable strap.

7. The harness of claim 6, wherein the strap length adjustment means comprises a slip buckle through which the adjustable strap can slip and to which one end of the adjustable strap is attached

8. A tether and harness for controlling the movement of a child or disabled person, comprising the parts of claim 1, wherein the adjustable strap also includes a means for gripping the adjustable strap by a human attached thereto, whereby the hand of a human can grip the gripping means on the adjustable strap, and wherein the adjustable strap is attached to the waist piece attachment means by the strap attachment means.

9. The tether and harness of claim 8, wherein the gripping means comprises a loop at one end of the adjustable strap.

10. The tether and harness of claim 8, wherein the waist piece attachment means comprises rings or belt loops attached to the waist piece or pieces.

11. The harness of claim 1, wherein the adjustable strap is adapted to attach to the waist piece attachment means, pass between the legs of the child or disabled person, through a vehicle seatbelt, and thence to the same or different, waist piece attachment means.

12. A tether and harness for controlling the movement of a child or disabled person, comprising the parts of claim 3, wherein the adjustable strap also includes a means for gripping the adjustable strap by a human, attached thereto, whereby the hand of a human can grip the gripping means on the adjustable strap, and wherein the adjustable strap is attached to the waist attachment means by the strap attachment means.

13. A tether and harness for controlling the movement of a child or disabled person, comprising the parts of claim 4, wherein the adjustable strap also includes a means for gripping the adjustable strap by a human, attached thereto, whereby the hand of a human can grip the gripping means on the adjustable strap, and wherein the adjustable strap is attached to the waist piece attachment means by the strap attachment means.

14. A tether and harness for controlling the movement of a child or disabled person, comprising the parts of claim 5, wherein the adjustable strap also includes a means for gripping the adjustable strap by a human, attached thereto, whereby the hand of a human can grip the gripping means on the adjustable strap, and wherein the adjustable strap is attached to the waist piece attachment means by the strap attachment means.

15. A tether and harness for controlling the movement of a child or disabled person, comprising the parts of claim 6, wherein the adjustable strap also includes a means for gripping the adjustable strap by a human, attached thereto, whereby the hand of a human can grip the gripping means on the adjustable strap, and wherein the adjustable strap is attached to the waist piece attachment means by the strap attachment means.

16. The harness of claim 1, further comprising a leg strap substantially shorter than the adjustable strap, wherein the leg strap includes a strap attachment means for attaching the leg strap to two or more waist piece attachment means, whereby the leg strap can pass between the legs of a child or disabled person to prevent the child or disabled person from sliding down from, and out of, the safety harness.

17. The harness of claim 3, further comprising a leg strap substantially shorter than the adjustable strap, wherein the leg strap includes a means for attaching the leg strap to two or more waist piece attachment means, whereby the leg strap can pass between the legs of a child or disabled person to prevent the child or disabled person from sliding down from, and out of, the safety harness.

18. The harness of claim 4, further comprising a leg strap substantially shorter than the adjustable strap, wherein the leg strap includes a means for attaching the leg strap to two or more waist piece attachment means, whereby the leg strap can pass between the legs of a child or disabled person to prevent the child or disabled person from sliding down from, and out of, the safety harness.

19. The harness of claim 16, wherein the means for attaching the leg strap to the waist piece attachment means comprises a snap hook or swivel snap hook at each end of the leg strap.

20. The harness of claim 17, wherein the means for attaching the leg strap to the waist piece attachment means comprises a snap hook or swivel snap hook at each end of the leg strap.

21. The harness of claim 18, wherein the means for attaching the leg strap to the waist piece attachment means comprises a snap hook or swivel snap hook at each end of the leg strap.

22. The harness of claim 16, further comprising a means for adjusting the length of the leg strap.

23. The harness of claim 17, further comprising a means for adjusting the length of the leg strap.

24. The harness of claim 22, wherein the leg strap length adjuster means comprises a slip buckle through which the leg strap can slip and to which one end of the leg strap is attached.

25. The harness of claim 23, wherein the leg strap length adjuster means comprises a slip buckle through which the leg strap can slip and to which one end of the leg strap is attached.

26. The harness of claim 1, wherein the front ends of two shoulder straps are attached to the front of the waist piece or pieces and to each other, in a V-shape, at the bottom of the V-shape, at a bottom attachment point and are also attached to the waist piece or pieces at two additional upper attachment points above the bottom of the V-shape, thus forming

two hollow front belt loops between the two upper attachment points and the bottom attachment point.

27. A universal harness for securing a child or disabled person to a highchair, booster seat, adult chair, shopping cart, stroller, wheelchair, or vehicle seat belt or other seat-related structure, comprising:

- (a) one or more torso engaging means adapted to engage the torso of a child or disabled person, and including a torso attachment means for attaching the torso engaging means to other parts of the harness,
- (b) one or more shoulder engaging means attached to said torso engaging means, and adapted to be attached to, and extend from, one point on the torso engaging means, over or around the shoulder or shoulders of the child or disabled person, and to be attached to another point on the torso engaging means, and
- (c) a separate adjustable strap, or other elongate member, having strap attachment means for attaching to one or more torso attachment means on the torso engaging means and adapted to extend around, or attach to, an engageable portion of a highchair, booster seat, adult chair, shopping cart, stroller, wheelchair, or vehicle seat belt or other seat-related structure,

whereby the child or disabled person is secured to the highchair, booster seat, adult chair, shopping cart, stroller, wheelchair, or vehicle seat belt or other seat-related structure.

28. A securing structure for securing a child or disabled person to a highchair, booster seat, adult chair, shopping cart, stroller, wheelchair, or vehicle seat belt or other seat-

related structure, or for controlling the movements of a child or disabled person by a controlling person, comprising:

- (a) one or more torso engaging means adapted to engage the torso of a child or disabled person, and including a torso attachment means for attaching the torso engaging means to other parts of the structure, and
- (b) a separate adjustable strap, or other elongate member, having strap attachment means for attaching to one or more torso attachment means on the torso engaging means and adapted to extend around, or attach to, an engageable portion of a highchair, booster seat, adult chair, shopping cart, stroller, wheelchair, or vehicle seat belt or other seat-related structure, or containing a gripping means for gripping by the controlling person,

whereby the child or disabled person may be secured to the highchair, booster seat, adult chair, shopping cart, stroller, wheelchair, or vehicle seat belt or other seat-related structure, or whereby the child's or disabled person's movements may be controlled by the controlling person .